

Cole-Kingsley House (Woman's Community Center)
110 East Liberty Street
Rome
Oneida County
New York

HABS No. NY-5512

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

COLE-KINGSLEY HOUSE
(WOMAN'S COMMUNITY CENTER)HABS
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Location: 110 East Liberty Street, Rome, Oneida County,
New York.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The land on which the city of Rome is now located was included in the Oriskany Patent, which was granted to Thomas Weston and others about 1705. In 1785 the patent was surveyed and divided into allotments. Previous to that time a parcel located to the south and west of the remains of Fort Stanwix had been surveyed and reserved for sale at an auction, in order to pay for the expense of surveying the remainder of the patent. This parcel was subsequently termed the "Expense Lot."

On January 9, 1786, a lottery was held to distribute the other parcels of the patent to various parties. The 460 acre portion which included Fort Stanwix was acquired by William Livingston and Alida Hoffman.¹

In March, 1786, Dominick Lynch, a New York City merchant, purchased the "Expense Lot" at auction, and in July of the same year acquired the portion of the patent which had been owned jointly by Livingston and Hoffman. Through the purchase of contiguous parcels, Lynch increased his holdings in the area to about 2000 acres by 1800.²

Within the next decade William Weston, an English engineer, surveyed Lynch's property and in 1796 drew a map indicating the village plan.³ Streets were arranged in a simple grid pattern, forming blocks measuring 400 by 600 feet, with the lengthwise axis running east to west.⁴ The blocks were sub-divided into building lots, each measuring 66 feet wide and 200 feet deep. Access to the interior of the blocks was provided by various alley arrangements. Lynch called the future city Lynchville, and named the two central thoroughfares after himself and his son, James.

Lynch had chosen the site of his proposed settlement carefully and wisely. From earliest times this area of central New York State had been well-served by inland water routes. A portage route, known as the "Oneida Carrying Place," formed a strategic land connection between Wood Creek, which was the beginning of the water route to the Great Lakes, and the Mohawk River, which flowed into the Hudson River and eventually into the Atlantic. Fort Stanwix was one of several defensive structures built during the eighteenth century to protect this transportation route. This connection was greatly

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improved in 1797 when the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company opened a canal which linked the Mohawk with Wood Creek. A visitor to Rome in 1802 noted that "this water communication is of incalculable benefit to this part of the world. Produce may be sent both ways . . ."⁵

The ruins of Fort Stanwix stood on what was designated on Weston's map as the eastern part of block twelve. It was situated on what are now lots five through fourteen and possibly also on parts of lots four and fifteen. During the next century this block was to play a crucial role in the transformation of the village of Lynchville into the city of Rome.

The parcel of land on which the Woman's Community Center now stands was included among the lots purchased by Wheeler Barnes from the executors of Dominick Lynch in 1828.⁶ Seven years later these lots, along with others at the northeast corner of the block, were purchased from Barnes by John Stryker,⁷ builder of "Liberty Hall," at the corner of Liberty and Spring Streets. Stryker sold these lots shortly thereafter,⁸ but in April, 1838, he purchased them again from K. Stringham, of Buffalo.⁹ On the same day Stryker mortgaged these two lots as well as the two lots adjacent on the east to Stringham,¹⁰ and this mortgage was satisfied by the agreed terms in 1840.¹¹

On March 26, 1846, Stryker and his wife sold a forty-five foot strip of their holding fronting on Liberty Street for \$900 to Alfred W. Cole, of Rome.¹² This parcel, which straddled the division line of lots twelve and thirteen, consisted of the western 24 feet of lot twelve and the eastern 21 feet of lot thirteen.¹³ Two days later Cole mortgaged the land to Stryker for the whole amount of the purchase price,¹⁴ and the mortgage was satisfied two years later.¹⁵

This forty-five foot wide parcel purchased by Cole in 1846 formed the core of the land on which the Woman's Community Center now stands. Over the years the size of the parcel was increased through the purchase of several adjacent strips of land, finally resulting in the present 142 frontage along Liberty Street.

Cole was a painter and glazier who had emigrated to America from England.¹⁶ When he purchased these lots, he was only 25 years old¹⁷ and did not have any children. The house he erected was constructed of brick.¹⁸ It is shown on a map published in 1851¹⁹ as a relatively large building, rectangular in plan with its longer axis parallel to the street. The building had a four columned porch extending across the entire south facade. The house was valued at \$6000 in 1855.²⁰

At the rear of the lot were three buildings, which formed a U-shaped complex around an open space. These buildings apparently were Cole's "tenements on Stone Alley," mentioned in 1857.²¹ In

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1857 Cole's shop was located on James Street nearly opposite the post office,²² so at that time he apparently did not use these buildings as his workshop. Also shown on the 1851 map are two small outbuildings bordering the west property line.

Living on these premises in 1850 in addition to Cole and his wife, Emma, were Timothy Kellogg, who was a druggist, (A ?) Kellogg, and a young Welsh woman, presumably a servant.²³ Five years later the Kelloggs had been replaced by English-born George Scott, who was also a druggist and curiously was listed as head of the household although he was five years younger than Cole.²⁴

Cole formed a partnership with George Russ, who also had traveled to Rome from England and who had learned his trade from Cole.²⁵ By 1860 Russ was listed as a "Master Painter."²⁶ A few years later Russ placed the following advertisement in a Rome newspaper. This notice was indicative of the styles of the times and probably of Cole's work during that period, as well:

PAPER HANGINGS

AND

DECORATIONS.

The cheapest place in town to buy,
and the largest assortment of

GOLD, SATIN
AND
COMMON PAPERS

Papers in imitation of

WOODS, MARBLES, AND FRESCO.

Decorations of all kinds

Panel Work, Block Work, &c., &c.²⁷

Russ later expanded his business to become a plumber.

Cole prospered in Rome. In 1857 he increased the size of his lot on Liberty Street through the purchase of another parcel of land from John Stryker.²⁸ Cole paid \$500 for the strip, which was thirty feet wide and adjoined Cole's original parcel on the east. While increasing the frontage of Cole's property to 75 feet, this conveyance consequently, of course, reduced the Strykers' frontage by 30 feet. In 1860 Cole's real estate holdings were valued at \$10,000 and his personal estate at \$700.²⁹ At that time he and his wife resided in

the house alone, except for one servant.³⁰

About this time, Dr. Willey J. P. Kingsley lived further west on Liberty Street, near James.³¹ In January, 1861, Cole and his wife, Emma, sold the premises to Kingsley for \$4000.³² During the 1850's Cole had purchased more land from Stryker and moved southwest to East Dominick Street at the corner of Bouck Street.³³

Many architectural features of the existing house, such as the mansard roof with dormers, the bracketed cornice, the entranceway and the interior trim are typical of dwellings constructed in the late 1860's and early 1870's. Various records, as well as physical evidence, suggest that the Kingsleys occupied the Cole house for several years and about 1870 heavily remodeled and added to the original building.

By comparing later maps with the 1851 map which indicated the Cole house, it is evident that the main block of the Kingsley house is identical in proportion and siting to the Cole house. Furthermore, as the Cole house was constructed of brick, it would have been costly and difficult to demolish. It is also notable that none of the secondary sources suggest that Kingsley built the house.

Several aspects of the house as it now stands suggest that it was remodeled. The main block of the house is stuccoed and coursed. The exterior walls of other sections of the house are of exposed brick with brick or stone foundations. If an entirely new house had been erected by a man of Kingsley's financial posture, it would seem likely that building materials would have been used consistently throughout the house.

Certain interior features also suggest remodeling rather than rebuilding. Victorian dwellings were typically designed with double parlors, but the Kingsley house has only a single parlor. The front entrance doorway is not centered in the hallway space, but butts against the west wall of the hall. The placement of the fireplace in the room west of the hall also suggests a remodeled house, as do the changes in level between the central block and the rear section on the second floor, and the long hallways of the rear section.

In December, 1860, Kingsley at age 36 had married Georgeanna M. Vogel, 23, daughter of the pastor of the Baptist church in Rome.³⁴ In January, 1861, he purchased the Cole property, which in that year was valued at \$2500.³⁵ In 1868 and 1869, the valuation was dropped to \$2300.³⁶

Kingsley's medical practice grew rapidly, and his fame as a cancer specialist spread. By 1870 his real estate was valued at

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\$50,000 and his personal estate at an additional \$20,000.³⁷ His first son had died when only two years old, but two more boys were born in 1865 and 1867.

In May, 1871, Kingsley purchased a forty-five foot strip of land adjoining his property on the west from builder Daniel B. Prince.³⁸ Through this purchase Kingsley increased the frontage of his property to 120 feet and at the same time acquired the Prince house, which he moved to the corner of Steuben and East Park Streets and remodeled and enlarged into a cancer hospital.³⁹ The original part of the house was located very near the west property line; with the annexation of the Prince lot Kingsley was able to add the west wing to the main block of the house.

In the summer of 1872 the tax valuation of the property was raised sharply to \$5000, indicating the extent of the remodeling.⁴⁰ The mansard roof was added and the interior trim "modernized." The west wing, which presumably housed a library, and a wing to the rear were added. Under the mansard roof is a single, large space, which has been referred to as a ballroom, but from the simple wall and ceiling coverings of vertical and horizontal boarding is more suggestive of a children's playroom. These changes to the house are confirmed by the 1873 view of Rome.⁴¹

In 1876 Kingsley reportedly traveled to the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, where he purchased a statue of a boy and girl holding an umbrella, which for many years graced the lawn of his house.⁴² The two urns flanking the front entrance appear to date from the same period.

Indicated on the circa 1878 view of the city is the playhouse with a mansard roof, which today is located on the grounds of the Stryker house (see HABS photocopy). Originally, the playhouse was situated southeast of the house, midway between the rear of the house and the outbuildings. The playhouse, which has an interior stairway leading up to the second story where there are built-in display cases, was reportedly used by the Kingsley boys for their rock collections and aquariums.⁴³ Later the building was moved east to the Stryker property and was used by the Harrington children, who equipped it with a heating stove. The oval concrete pool at the northeast corner of the lot may be indicative also of Kingsley boys' interest in marine life.

By 1878 the eastern section of the extensive rear outbuildings had been erected. The outbuilding further west was probably built by 1891, for its west facade ends near what was the west property line before that time. Kingsley had kept a large number of horses, and the extent of the outbuildings may be indicative of this interest.

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In June, 1891, Kingsley, then 67 years old, conveyed the property to his wife, Georgeanna.⁴⁴ In September of the same year she purchased another strip of land adjacent to the house on the west.⁴⁵ The parcel, for which Mrs. Kingsley paid \$2500, was 22 feet wide. Located at the rear of that parcel was a brick building which the former owner was permitted to occupy until the following spring, when he was to remove it.⁴⁶

Like many of his neighbors, Kingsley had studied in the neighboring community of Whitestown, where he attended the Whitestown Seminary.⁴⁷ He studied medicine with two Utica physicians before entering the Geneva Medical College. In 1855 he was granted his M.D. degree from New York Medical College and began practicing in Utica, but moved his practice to Rome in 1856. In 1858 he placed an advertisement in a Rome newspaper, indicating that he was a "Physician, Homeopathic Occultist, and Surgeon."⁴⁸ At this time he specialized in the surgery and treatment of the eye. His early years were spent in a general medical practice, but in later years he concentrated on the treatment of cancer.

In addition to his extensive medical practice, Kingsley was involved in various financial and civic ventures in Rome. At the time of his death he was the largest single taxpayer in the city; among his holdings were several large commercial buildings along Dominick and James Streets. Kingsley had been president of the Bank of Rome, the Farmers National Bank, the Rome Iron Works, and the Rome Brass and Copper Company, and served as director of the Rome Locomotive Works. He was one of the incorporators of the Central New York Institution for Deaf-Mutes and served as its president. He was also president of the Rome Cemetery Association and of the Jervis Library Association, and aided the Y.M.C.A. and the Rome Hospital.

Unlike his Democratic neighbors John Stryker, Henry Foster, and George Barnard, Kingsley was a staunch Republican.⁴⁹ In 1895 he began a four year term as mayor of the city of Rome, and was very conscientious about the responsibilities of his office. During his term as mayor he had brick paving laid in front of a commercial building which he owned on West Dominick Street, thus introducing the first modern street paving in the city.

In 1890 the Kingsley's eldest son, George, died in Boston from diphtheria, shortly after receiving his medical degree from Harvard Medical College. In his memory, the Kingsleys erected the Kingsley Memorial Chapel in the Rome Cemetery and equipped the new gymnasium at Yale University, where George had studied as an undergraduate.

Willey J. Kingsley was the only son who survived. Willey had attended Yale and the Harvard Medical School with his brother, but returned to Rome to practice medicine with his father. Even more than his father, Willey J. Kingsley was involved with business enterprises

and soon abandoned his medical practice to concentrate on his other interests. In 1915 he was unabashedly listed in the census records as a "capitalist,"⁵⁰ a rather apt description as he was a multi-millionaire at his death.

Willey J. Kingsley was president of the Rome Manufacturing Company from 1892 to 1919 and headed the Rome Brass and Copper Company from 1908 to 1919. He also served as president of the Rome Metal Company, the Rome Tube Company, the Rome Locomotive Works, the Rome Turney Radiator Company, and the First New York Beet Sugar Company.

In 1908 Willey J. purchased the former Huntingon property on Dominick Street between the Barnard and Martin houses.⁵¹ Here he constructed a tennis court; he had been a championship tennis player while at Harvard. Desirous of climate-controlled facilities, he enclosed the court with a concrete block building, in which he later established the Rome Sporting Goods Manufacturing Company. The building later housed the state armory and the Rome Historical Society.

Kingsley owned considerable real estate in North Carolina, Kansas and Palm Beach, Florida. He was a large stockholder of the Revere Copper and Brass Company and of the U. S. Steel Company. He was described as a "wealthy clubman well known in Paris, London, New York and Palm Beach . . ."⁵² He belonged to the Racquet and Tennis Club of New York and the Royal Yacht Club of London.

From 1895 to 1908 he was chairman of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners and was particularly concerned with the latest and best methods of firefighting. He was the donor of a camp site to the local Boy Scout council and a trustee of the Jervis Library. In his will he provided that if his wife did not survive him (which she did), a portion of his estate be used to "lay out and expend on a System of Parks of Parkways" for Rome.⁵³

Willey J.'s father, W. J. P. Kingsley had died in 1912, at the age of 88. Seven years later his wife, Georgeanna, died, aged 74. Mrs. Kingsley was instrumental in placing a marker on the site of Fort Bull and in arranging for the flag staff and model of Fort Stanwix to be placed on the grounds of the Rome Club.⁵⁴ Mrs. Kingsley bequeathed all of her real estate, including the Liberty Street home, to her son, Willey.

In 1918 Willey J., then 52 years old, married Lucy K. Stevens, of Rome, and began construction on a new house, which stood at 136 Turin Street in Rome until it was demolished in 1969.

In November, 1920, Willey and Lucy Kingsley donated the old Kingsley home on Liberty Street to the Woman's General Study Club of Rome for use as the Club's headquarters.⁵⁵ The club, now known as the Woman's Community Center of Rome, was formed during World War I

and assumed functions similar to those of a Y.W.C.A. Kingsley also bequeathed funds to the organization.

By 1930 one of the outbuildings at the rear of the property was being used as a gymnasium and in the other was a swimming pool.⁵⁶ Also erected by this time was the southernmost rear addition.

In February, 1970, the club sold the property to the Rome Urban Renewal Agency and is now engaged in a joint fund drive with the local Y.M.C.A. to raise money for a new building to serve both organizations.

FOOTNOTES

¹Samuel W. Durant, History of Oneida County, New York (Philadelphia: Evert & Fariss, 1878), p. 375.

²Ibid.

³William Weston, "Map of Lynchville," 1796.

⁴The existing block and lot numbers have been changed from the original numbers. The block on which Fort Stanwix stood was originally block twelve, but is now block seven. The present parcel numbers do not correspond to the original lot numbers. In tracing the history of the block over a period of about 175 years, it was necessary to refer to these original lot numbers, which are shown on the 1874 map.

⁵"Journal of Rev. John Taylor's Missionary Tour through the Mohawk & Black River Countries in 1802," The Documentary History of the State of New-York (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1850), III, 1138.

⁶Oneida County Deeds, Book 48, p. 110.

⁷Ibid., Book 70, p. 259.

⁸This conveyance does not appear to be included in the indexes of the Oneida County land records.

⁹Oneida County Deeds, Book 85, p. 333.

¹⁰Oneida County Mortgages, Book 37, p. 107.

¹¹Ibid., Book 41, p. 304.

¹²Oneida County Deeds, Book 129, p. 463.

¹³Ibid.

- ¹⁴Oneida County Mortgages, Book 61, p. 209.
- ¹⁵Ibid.
- ¹⁶Seventh Census (1850), New York, Vol. 61, Oneida County, p. 37.
- ¹⁷New York State Census (1855), Oneida County, p. 114.
- ¹⁸Ibid.
- ¹⁹Map of Rome Oneida County New York (Philadelphia: Henry Hart, 1851).
- ²⁰New York State Census (1855), Oneida County, p. 114.
- ²¹Rome Directory, 1857.
- ²²Ibid.
- ²³Seventh Census (1850), New York, Vol. 61, Oneida County, p. 37.
- ²⁴Eighth Census (1860), New York, Vol. 64, Oneida County, p. 401.
- ²⁵Daniel E. Wager, Our City and Its People, a Descriptive Work on the City of Rome New York (Boston: The Boston History Company, 1896), p. 130.
- ²⁶Eighth Census (1860), New York, Vol. 64, Oneida County, p. 401.
- ²⁷Rome Sentinel, September 10, 1867.
- ²⁸Oneida County Deeds, Book 203, p. 2.
- ²⁹Eighth Census (1860), New York, Vol. 64, Oneida County, p. 413.
- ³⁰Ibid.
- ³¹Rome Directory, 1857.
- ³²Oneida County Deeds, Book 237, p. 266.
- ³³Rome Directory, 1862-63.
- ³⁴Wager, pt. 2, p. 35.
- ³⁵Rome Assessment Rolls, 1861.
- ³⁶Ibid., 1868, 1869.
- ³⁷Ninth Census (1870), New York, Vol. 77, Oneida County, p. 30.

- 38 Oneida County Deeds, Book 490, p. 106.
- 39 "Death of D. B. Prince," Rome Daily Sentinel, June 14, 1894.
- 40 Rome Assessment Rolls, 1872. The assessment figure rose in 1870 from \$2300 to \$3300, but this may have been a mistake made in transcribing the records, for in 1871 the house was valued at \$2000 and the Prince house at \$600.
- 41 Birds Eye View of Rome 1873 Oneida County, New York.
- 42 "Woman's Club Site Former Home of Dr. Kingsley, Cancer Specialist," newspaper clipping apparently from the Rome Sentinel, n.d., in files of Rome Historical Society.
- 43 Interview with Mrs. Charlotte Crill, May 28, 1970.
- 44 Oneida County Deeds, Book 490, p. 106.
- 45 Ibid., Book 488, p. 503.
- 46 Ibid.
- 47 Wager, pt. 2, p. 35.
- 48 Rome Sentinel, July 7, 1858.
- 49 "Dr. Kingsley Dead," Rome Daily Sentinel, January 26, 1912.
- 50 New York State Census (1915), Oneida County, Vol. 363, p. 110.
- 51 Oneida County Deeds, Book 646, p. 156.
- 52 "Dr. W. L. Kingsley Found Dead by Gunshot at His Winter Home in Florida," Rome Daily Sentinel, April 6, 1931.
- 53 Oneida County Wills, Book 78, p. 353.
- 54 "Woman's Club Site Former Home of Dr. Kingsley, Cancer Specialist."
- 55 Oneida County Deeds, Book 783, p. 475.
- 56 Insurance Map of Rome Including Stanwix Village and Ridge Mills (New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1930), n.p.

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PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. Description of Exterior:

1. Number of stories: Main block is two stories plus another full story under the mansard roof. Rest of building is two stories.
2. Number of bays: North (front) and side facades of main block are all three bays wide. North side of west wing is also three bays wide.
3. Over-all dimensions: The north facade of the main block measures about 38 feet; west wing extends west about 15 feet. From front to rear including all additions to the building, the structure measures about 95 feet.
4. Layout, shape: To the central block of house which is rectangular in plan have been added a west wing and a rear wing, making the over-all plan of the building irregular.
5. Foundations: Foundations of main block are covered with stucco and coursed; rear wing has brick foundations.
6. Wall construction, finish, and color: Main block of house has masonry walls covered with stucco and has stucco quoins. Rear and west wings are of brick laid up in running bond. The entire building is painted red.
7. Porches: Bracketed entrance porch in center bay of north facade. The wooden porch on the north side of the library (west) wing is now enclosed, as is a porch south of the central block.
8. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Entrance door has large circular panel with glass, two arched vertical panels below, and in the lowest section a horizontal oval panel.
 - b. Windows: Double-hung two-over-two light sash.
9. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Main block of house has mansard roof covered with gray slate shingles. Rest of house has flat roofs.

b. Cornice: Bracketed wooden cornice.

c. Dormers: Gabled dormers have triangular and elliptical pediments, slate cheeks.

B. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: First floor: Double doors open off east side of hallway in central part of north portion of house leading to a parlor. On the west side of this hallway is one large room which is divided about midway by an archway running east and west and supported on consoles. The north portion of the west wall of this room is formed by a three-sided bay window. On the south wall of the room is a doorway which opens to a room with its lengthwise axis running east and west and projecting beyond the exterior west walls of the earlier part of the house. Opening off the south of this room is a long narrow hallway running east and west, off of which several rooms open. At the east end of this hallway and directly south of the parlor is a large room. The east side of this room is formed by a three-sided bay window. The south side of the room opens onto a glass-enclosed porch. On the north portion of the west wall a door opens to a walk-in closet which has another door to the east wall of the office. Opening off the south wall of the narrow hall is a bathroom and further west a room now, and perhaps originally, used as a kitchen. A pantry opens off the east wall of the kitchen. At the east corner of the south wall of the kitchen is a doorway and three steps that lead down to an adjoining room. On the east portion of the north wall of this room is a back stairway leading to the second floor and at the west corner of the north wall a stairway leads to the basement. Under this first stairway is a toilet room. On the east wall of this room a doorway leads to a small room or closet, which was locked. On the south wall of this room a door leads to another room at the extreme rear of the house.

Second floor: The hallway extends to the north wall of the house and the north wall is formed by a three-sided bay window which forms a protective stoop over the front entrance and is separated from the rest of the hall by an archway spanning the east and west hall walls. Opening off the west hall wall are two bedrooms. The northwest bedroom has a bay window on the west wall, over a similar window on the first floor; on the west side of the south wall is a closet door. The southwest bedroom was locked. Opening off the east hall wall are the

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northeast bedroom and a bathroom. A few steps at the southeast corner of the central hall lead up to a back hallway, which is Z-shaped in plan. The first leg of this hall runs north and south. Opening off the east wall of this is a bedroom located just south of the northeast bedroom and bathroom. The east wall of this bedroom is a three-sided bay window like the one in the dining room directly below. In this section of the hall, opening off the west wall, is a large storage closet, the corner of which is rounded. The next section of this hall runs east and west. Opening off the north wall of the hall and located just west of the storage closet is a bathroom. On the west wall is a doorway to a bedroom. On the south wall of this hallway was a door that was locked. Further west on the south wall was the last leg of this Z-shaped hall. On the west wall of this hall were two locked doors, which presumably led to small closets. Three steps at the south end of this hall led to a large room. Along the north wall of this room was the flight of stairs leading up from the first floor. There is a locked room or closet in the southeast corner of this room; further south was another large room.

Third floor: There is a large undivided space under the mansard roof, evidently used as a playroom.

2. Stairway: Curved single flight of stairs rises to second floor on west wall of entrance hall. Newel post and turned balusters, as well as stair treads, are of dark wood, varnished. Arched panels and ornamental brackets decorate the space between the stringer and the baseboard.
3. Flooring: Wall and ceiling finish, doorways and doors, decorative features, fireplaces: Entrance hall: Modern tile floor, plaster walls painted; plaster ceiling with ornate pierced Victorian plaster molding. Doors opening off hallway are composed of two rows of vertical panels.

Room west of entrance hall: Tile flooring, plaster walls, plaster ceiling with moulded cornice; arch spanning east and west walls, visually dividing area into two spaces; marble mantelpiece on south wall.

Office: Tile floor, plaster walls, plaster ceiling without cornice and possibly a new, lowered ceiling; built-in bookcases extend along south wall of room.

Back hall: Linoleum floor, wooden wainscoting with plaster walls above, plaster ceiling.

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Dining Room: Modern tile floor, plaster wall with dark wooden chair rail, new ceiling appears to have been lowered, ceiling pendants at corners of room; wooden brackets with incised flower designs at bay window.

Enclosed porch: Modern tile floor, wooden ceiling.

Kitchen: Modern tile floor, wooden wainscoating, plaster above, built-in cupboard in north east corner of room.

Room south of kitchen: Tile floor, plasterboard ceiling, with plaster above on east and west walls, south wall covered with plywood.

Rear room: Modern tile floor, plasterboard walls and ceiling.

Parlor: Inlaid parquet floor; plaster walls, plaster ceiling with ornate cornice pierced and cast with grape and acanthus leaf design; wooden panels under windows; along west wall, double doors open at north end and a single door at south end from entrance hall; on south wall a large, elaborate marble mantelpiece with arched opening and cartouche with cameo-like silhouette; large overmantel mirror.

Second floor: Northwest bedroom: Parquet floor; plaster walls with picture molding about 14 inches below ceiling.

Northeast bedroom: Hardwood floor, plaster walls and ceiling, picture molding about 14 inches below ceiling juncture.

Southeast bedroom: Hardwood floor, plaster ceiling and walls, picture molding about 14 inches below ceiling.

Room at west end of back hall: Hardwood floors, plaster walls and ceiling, picture molding.

Room at extreme rear of house: Hardwood floor, fibre-board walls and ceilings. Adjoining this room on the north is another room with marble counter and kitchen-type sink, vertical and horizontal boarded walls, linoleum floor, plasterboard walls.

Third floor: Playroom or ballroom: Hardwood floor, horizontally boarded walls and ceiling above vertical wainscoating.

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4. Lighting: Electrical.

C. Site and Surroundings:

1. Orientation: Front facade faces north onto Liberty Street.
2. Outbuildings: Two large two-story brick outbuildings painted red are located along the south property line facing onto Willett Street. These are now used for a gymnasium and a swimming pool.
3. Landscaping: The grounds are well-landscaped, with many large shrubs and trees on the property. At the main entrance are two cast iron urns. In the northwest corner of the lot is a concrete fish pond banked with evergreens.

Prepared by Diana S. Waite
Architectural Historian
June 1970

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

At the request of the Rome Urban Renewal Agency, the Historic American Buildings Survey of the National Park Service arranged in the Spring of 1970 to have recorded five historic nineteenth-century buildings on the site of Fort Stanwix. The site of this important colonial fortification is scheduled to be cleared for archeological investigation and for reconstruction by the National Park Service. Funding for the necessary research and the preparation of the records for the HABS archives was provided by the Rome Urban Renewal Agency (William H. Flinchbaugh, Executive Director) as part of the Fort Stanwix-Central Business District Urban Renewal Project (NYR-173). Mrs. Diana Waite prepared the historic documentation and the architectural descriptions; Jack E. Boucher made the detailed photographic record; the project was under the general supervision of John C. Poppeliers, Senior Editor of the Historic American Buildings Survey.